

LOCAL BRIEFING

**Emergency Alert System test is Wednesday**

A nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System and Wireless Emergency Alerts will take place Oct. 3. Postponed from an earlier date, the tests will be conducted by FEMA in coordination with the Federal Communications Commission.

In Oregon, the WEA portion of the test commences at 11:18 a.m., and the EAS portion follows at 11:20 a.m. The test will assess the operational readiness of the infrastructure for distribution of a national message and determine

whether improvements are needed.

Citizens are reminded that this is a test and not to be alarmed when they receive a cellphone emergency alert. For further information on the test, go to [www.fema.gov/emergency-alert-test](http://www.fema.gov/emergency-alert-test).

**Kids Night Out planned for Friday**

LA GRANDE — Kids Night Out will run from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Oct. 5 at Quinn Coliseum on the EOU campus in La Grande. Sponsored by the EOU women's basketball team, the event is open to children in kindergarten through eighth grade and

will feature indoor activities such as basketball, soccer, scooter bowling, bingo, movies, dancing and rock climbing. All areas will be well supervised, and professionals certified in first aid and CPR will be on-site. Cost is \$10 per child. Concessions will be available, including a \$3 "meal deal" of a hot dog, chips and a drink.

Pre-registration is offered but is not required. Registration at the door will be open from 5:40 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Participants may leave early but cannot return. All children must be signed in and out and are asked to wear proper shoes (no Heeleys) and comfortable clothing. For more

information contact Anji Weissenfluh, head coach, at 541-962-3236 or [aweissen@eou.edu](mailto:aweissen@eou.edu).

**Buy a tree, volunteers will plant it for Arbor Day**

LA GRANDE — October is NeighborWoods Month. Sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation and the Alliance for Community Trees, NeighborWoods Month is an annual campaign to plant and care for community trees during the month of October. Each year, volunteers take action to make their communities greener and healthier by planting trees and keeping their neighborhoods vibrant.

The City of La Grande street tree planting program provides trees to be planted in the city right-of-way (near the street). The cost of the trees is shared by the city and the homeowners, who pay \$30 per tree. You may plant the tree yourself or request that volunteers plant it for you. Contact the Urban Forestry Division at [trees@cityoflagrande.org](mailto:trees@cityoflagrande.org) or call 541-663-1952 to request your tree.

The La Grande fall tree planting day is scheduled for 9 a.m. to noon Oct. 6. Join the Grow La Grande! volunteers to help plant trees in neighborhoods throughout the city. Meet at the Parks and Recreation

Department, 2402 Cedar St., at 9 a.m.

**Bring your pup to Doggy Howl-a-Ween Costume Party**

LA GRANDE — La Grande Parks & Rec invites the community and their pups to the first-ever Doggy Howl-a-Ween Costume Party at 2 p.m. this Saturday at the Riverside Park Dog Park. There will be prizes, treats, an obstacle course and more for the dogs, and coffee and cider for their humans. Contact McKayla Nitz, recreation supervisor; at 541-962-1352 or [mnitz@cityoflagrande.org](mailto:mnitz@cityoflagrande.org) for more information.

OBITUARIES

**Gina Tierce**  
La Grande

Gina Tierce, 43, of La Grande, died Sept. 26 at her residence. A viewing will be held from 1 p.m. to 1:45 p.m., followed by a funeral at 2 p.m., Oct. 6 at the Union County Senior Center. An obituary is forthcoming. Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory is handling the arrangements.

**Tammy L. Gerlach**  
Formerly of La Grande  
1960-2018

Tammy L. Gerlach, 58, of Boise, Idaho and formerly of La Grande, died Sept. 24 at her home.



A celebration of her life will be held at 11 a.m. Oct. 1 at Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebra-

tion Center. Interment will follow at the Island City Cemetery.

Tammy was born April 14, 1960, in La Grande, to Harlin and Emma "LaVelle" (Hemphill) Gerlach. Over the years, she lived in Oregon and Idaho.

Tammy enjoyed gardening, playing with her grandchildren, camping, fishing and experiencing nature and wildlife. She also enjoyed spending time with her cat, Leo, painting and antiques and collectibles.

Survivors include her children, Jeremy Barber, Matthew Gerlach and Gennifer Gerlach; five grandchildren; and other relatives.

She was preceded in death by her parents and sister, Terri Gerlach.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Blue Mountain Humane

Association in care of Daniels-Knopp Funeral, Cremation & Life Celebration Center, 1502 Seventh St., La Grande 97850.

**Marilou Polkinghorne**  
Summerville

Marilou Polkinghorne, 74, of Summerville died, Sept. 28 at her residence. An obituary is forthcoming. Loveland Funeral Chapel & Crematory will be handling the arrangements.

**Willa Mae (Jones) O'Rourke**  
Joseph  
1927-2018

Willa Mae O'Rourke, 91, of Joseph, died Sept. 25. A memorial Mass will be held at 11 a.m. Oct. 5 at St. Katherine Catholic Church in Enterprise, with interment of cremains at the



Joseph Cemetery. Fellowship will follow at the Parish Hall.

Arrangements are entrusted to Bollman Funeral Home.

Willa Mae was born May 30, 1927, in Monument, to LeRoy and Josephine Jones. She was the fourth of sixth children. Willa Mae attended grammar and high school in Monument. She worked in the shipyards in Portland in 1944

Willa Mae married Hillary Michael "Mike" O'Rourke March 9, 1947. In 1955, they settled just outside of Joseph, where they spent the remainder of their years. They had three children: Larry, Patrick and Mavis.

Willa Mae worked in the Joseph High School cafeteria. She was a member of Beta Sigma Phi and of St.

Katherine Catholic Church. Willa Mae enjoyed taking care of her garden and lawn, cooking, handiwork sewing and crocheting. Her grandchildren and great-grandchildren were the loves of her life.

Survivors include her husband, Mike; children, Larry of La Grande and Mavis of Joseph; and four

grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandson.

She was preceded in death by parents; son, Patrick; and one sister and three brothers.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to the Jalyn Radford-Weck account at Community Bank.

**FAMILY OWNED**

**NORTHWEST FURNITURE & MATTRESS**

215 Elm Street La Grande (541) 963-5440

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Man accused of beating roommate's dog to death

Associated Press

REDMOND — Police cited a man for animal abuse after they say he beat his roommate's dog to death outside their home in Redmond.

The Oregonian/OregonLive reports 39-year-old Jeffrey E. Taylor attacked a 17-year-old Australian shepherd named Ashton on Thursday, according to authorities.

Deschutes County Sheriff's Office spokesman Sgt. Kent Vander Kamp says the roommate wasn't home at the time. Vander Kamp says the punches and kicks stopped after

an Oregon State Police trooper arrived.

The dog died at the scene.

Vander Kamp says Taylor was arrested and brought to a hospital for a mental health evaluation. He says Taylor hasn't given a reason for the attack, and an investigation is ongoing.

Taylor has been released from police custody and the hospital and wasn't booked into jail.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT

**UNION COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Arrested: Landon Tyrel Hudleston, 25, La Grande, was arrested on a charge of third-degree theft.

Arrested: Jerry Leroy Keagle Jr., 27, unknown address, was arrested on two Union County warrants. One warrant charged failure to appear in court on a charge of failure to perform duties of a driver. A second warrant charged failure to appear in court on a charge of third-degree theft.

Arrested: Tristan Caleb Sauer, 22, Union, was arrested on a Union County warrant charging failure to appear in court

on a charge of second-degree trespassing.

**LA GRANDE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

The La Grande Fire Department responded to seven calls for medical on Friday, 10 calls for medical on Saturday and four calls for medical on Sunday.

**LA GRANDE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Arrested: Jason Tyler Neaves, 26, La Grande, was arrested on a charge of third-degree theft.

Cited: Two Union County juveniles were cited on charges of unlawful possession of marijuana.

**What's Cooking ?**  
by Sandy Sorrels of  
**TEN DEPOT STREET**

Tomorrow Tuesday October 2 is **First Tuesday Open Mic** at **Ten Depot Street** with our charming host Ashley O'Toole. An accomplished musician himself, Ashley plays with various bands including with Colt Haney when he does his *Elwood* show and the *Grande Ronde Symphony*. Come join Ashley, have a drink, enjoy some of our delicious \$2.95 *Bar Bites* and see what other amazing talent turns up.

And tomorrow night like every Tuesday is **Prime Rib Night** at **Ten Depot Street**. Almost everyone who travels and likes prime rib tells us that we have the best prime rib anywhere. I agree. On Tuesday you can get a regular twelve ounce cut of slow roasted Prime Rib for the reduced price of \$23.95. Of course our prime rib is available every night. And we also make amazing *Prime Rib*

*Sandwiches*, served on a fresh grilled baguette with warm au jus for dipping. Great with one of our Walla Walla reds.

Try our *Jumbo Shrimp and Sea Scallop Brochette* with garlic and fresh basil sauce. Wednesday and Thursday's special this week for just \$19.95.

Coffee and chocolate go well together and are a perfect way to end a meal. At Ten Depot we have the best of both. Our freshly brewed Italian roast coffee, available in decaf also, is roasted and sent overnight from *Equator Coffee Company in Eugene*. And to go with it we have a delicious *Triple Layer Chocolate Cake*, a nutty *Chocolate Hazelnut Torte* which is also gluten free, and our famous *Hot Fudge Sundae* with our homemade dark chocolate sauce.

**BLUE PLATE SPECIAL \$10.95**  
Homemade Lasagne, green salad, garlic bread  
(served Monday through Friday)

**UNION COUNTY MUSEUM**

**Annual Meeting Event**  
**7 p.m., Friday, October 5** *Free admission!*

Join us in the Little White Church in Union  
Guest presentation:

**A Little Fiddle Music & A Little History**  
*Alice Trindle, Grande Ronde Symphony*

All are welcome. Also, highlights of the season.  
Members will elect new board members,  
vote on the budget and honor our volunteers.

366 S. Main Street, Union  
[www.ucmuseumoregon.com](http://www.ucmuseumoregon.com)

**HAPPY 90<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY**

**RALPH SIMONSON**

Come have a piece of cake and wish Ralph a Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday!

**Open House**  
**Sun. Oct. 7th**  
**2-5pm at Ralph's Place:**  
**72382 Palmer Jct. Rd., Elgin**  
**(No gifts please, only your presence!)**

Questions Call 541-663-6559